

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

- 5     1 (currently amended): A method of providing device-dependent print data to a printer  
by a computer system, the method comprising:  
providing the computer system with an operating system having an upper layer  
for controlling a graphical device interface, and a lower layer for  
controlling input/output activities;
- 10     utilizing a printer manager of the computer system for generating print data, the  
printer manager comprising a user interface for configuring the printer  
manager and a device-dependent converter for converting input data into  
device-dependent output data that is suitable for a first type of printer but  
not suitable for a second type of printer according to configuration
- 15     information received from the user interface;  
providing encoded data to the printer manager;  
the printer manager decoding the encoded data to generate raw data, and  
utilizing the converter to convert the raw data into the device-dependent  
print data without utilizing the upper layer;
- 20     providing the device-dependent print data to the lower layer; and  
the lower layer of the operating system outputting the device-dependent print  
data to the printer, the printer being the first type of printer.
- 25     2 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the converter converts the raw data into  
gray-level image data and converts the gray-level image data into the  
device-dependent print data.
- 30     3 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the converter converts the raw data into  
cyan-magenta-yellow-black (CMYK) image data and converts the CMYK image  
data into the device-dependent print data.

4-5 (cancelled).

6 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the encoded data is stored in a joint  
5 photographic experts group (JPEG) format.

7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the encoded data is stored in a graphics  
interchange format (GIF).

10 8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the encoded data is stored in a bitmap  
(BMP) format.

9 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the encoded data is stored in a tag image  
file format (TIFF).

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